privatisation of new Services including franchising of freight terminals and confining itself to meeting only the primary demand of freight and passenger traffic;

(b) if so, the details of the related plans; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) The private sector participation in Major Ports has been permitted in Leasing out existing assets of the Port, Construction/creation of additional assets, such as Construction and operation of container terminals, Construction and operation of bulk, break bulk, multipurpose and specialised cargo berths, Warehousing, container Freight Stations, Storage facilities and tank farms, Crange/Handling Equipment, Setting up of captive power plants, Dry docking and ship repair facilities, Leasing of equipment for port handling and leasing of floating crafts from the private sector, Pilotage and Captive facilities for Port based industries.

(c) The guidelines for private sector participation in Port Sector have been issued.

Construction of Hostels

685. SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Eastern Council has disbursed a total amount of Rs. 81 lakh for the construction of two hostels in Delhi University campus;

(b) if so, amount disbursed to D.U. for purpose and the amount utilised therefrom, year-wise;

(c) the progress of construction of the hostels and their locations;

(d) the time by which the hostels are likely to start functioning; and

(e) the percentage of reservation made for the students from the North Eastern region in these hostels?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, the North Eastern Council had disbursed grants of Rs. 6.00 lakhs in May, 1992 and Rs. 75.00 lakhs in May, 1994 for construction of two hostels. Out of these grants an expenditure of Rs. 4.16 lakhs has been incurred so far.

(c) and (d) The Layout Plans of the Girls Hostel to be located at North Campus of the University have since been approved by the Delhi Urban Arts Commission and the tenders for construction of this hostel are being invited. In respect of the Boys Hostel to be constructed at South Campus of the University, approval of the Delhi Urban Arts Commission is being obtained whereafter the tenders would be invited. The construction of the two hostels is expected to be completed within a period of three years from the date of finalisation of tenders.

(e) According to the Memorandum of Understanding agreed upon by the University and the North Eastern Council, 70% of the total seats created in these two hostels will be allocated for the students of North Eastern States taking admission to postgraduate courses in the University. However, in order to avoid segregation these seats will be distributed in other hostels of the university also.

[Translation]

Construction of Thermal Power Station in Uttar Pradesh

686. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government for construction of 3 x 250 MW Thermal Power Station at Bilthara road in Balia district of Uttar Pradesh :

(b) if so, the progress made in preparing action plan of this project;

(c) the reasons for delay in execution of this project;

(d) whether the Government are committed to remove the obstacles in the execution of this project; and

(e) if so, justification for fixing the responsibility of U.P. Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (e) The proposal of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) to install 3 x 250 MW Thermal Power Plant at Belthara Road in Balia District of Uttar Pradesh was received in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 8.11.1992. The proposal was examined by CEA and it was observed that various inputs/clearances such as compliance of Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, Coal linkage, water availability (Central), environmental clearances and Civil Aviation Clearance had not been tied up. The Ministry of Water Resources had also imposed a condition regarding drawal of water from river Ghagara during the lean period. In view of the fact that various inputs/clearance were not tied up, UPSEB were informed by CEA in February, 1994 that this scheme was not being pursued by them and should be treated as returned. No fresh proposal for this project has been received from UPSEB.